

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY  
JANUARY 5, 2021**

**ITEM 4**

**SUBJECT**

RESULTS FROM THE 2019 VOLUMETRIC ANNUAL REPORTS OF WASTEWATER AND RECYCLED WATER IN CALIFORNIA

**DISCUSSION**

Staff will provide the results from the 2019 volumetric data from wastewater and recycled water facilities that was collected and analyzed as part of the Water Quality Control Policy for Recycled Water ([Recycled Water Policy](#)) volumetric annual reporting requirements.

On December 11, 2018, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) adopted an amendment to the Recycled Water Policy ([Resolution No. 2018-0057](#), effective April 8, 2019) to promote water resiliency in California by encouraging the safe use of recycled water from wastewater sources in a manner that is protective of public health and the environment. The Recycled Water Policy contains a numeric goal to increase the use of recycled water to at least 2.5 million acre-feet per year by 2030 and two narrative goals: (1) to reuse all dry weather direct discharge to ocean waters, enclosed bays, estuaries and coastal lagoons to the extent feasible, and (2) to maximize the use of recycled water in areas where groundwater supplies are threatened. The goals align with the goals to promote the safe use of recycled water in the Comprehensive Response to Climate Change ([Resolution No. 2017-0012](#)) and the [Water Resilience Portfolio](#) that was developed in response to Executive Order N-10-19.

Historically, the amount of recycled water produced and used was collected through resource-intensive surveys. The 2018 amendment to the Recycled Water Policy includes electronic annual volumetric reporting requirements to track progress towards the State's goals, quantify the current production and use of potable and non-potable recycled water, and assess the potential volume of wastewater that could be recycled and beneficially reused. Wastewater treatment plants and recycled water producers were required to submit their 2019 data electronically into the GeoTracker reporting module by April 2020 and annually thereafter. These annual data can provide insight into statewide demand for, and use of, wastewater and recycled water, as well as to inform water management decisions, including water supply planning.

To implement the Recycled Water Policy volumetric reporting requirements, the State Water Board Executive Director issued orders in June 2019 to require wastewater treatment plants and recycled water producers (including wastewater treatment plants

that do not produce any recycled water) to annually report monthly volumes of influent and effluent, including treatment level and discharge type. As applicable, facilities producing recycled water are also required to annually report recycled water use by volume and category of reuse.

As of October 7, 2020, 688 of 771 facilities have submitted volumetric annual reports for the 2019 calendar year, representing approximately 90 percent of applicable wastewater treatment plants and recycled water producers statewide. Staff will provide a presentation on the methods used to collect and analyze the 2019 volumetric data and a summary of the results.

**POLICY ISSUE**

None.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact.

**REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT**

None.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

No action needed- informational item.